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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Caroline CONNELLY et al.  
Appl. No. : 09/857,433  
Filed : June 4, 2001  
Title : HOMOCYSTEINE ASSAY

Confirmation No: 3339

TC/A.U. : 1651  
Examiner : R. J. Gitomer

Docket No.: : CONN3001/REF  
Customer No: : 23364

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action of October 20, 2004, in connection with the above-identified application. The period for response to this Official Action has been extended to expire on April 20, 2005 by the filing herewith of a Petition for a Three Month Extension of Time and payment of the required fee.

Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.